



Missouri Department of Mental Health Missouri Institute of Mental Health

Substance Abuse Traffic Offenders Program (SATOP)

Brief 6

November 1999

Brief Summary of Results Update

Recidivism Data (Retrospective Study)

In 1996, we took a 10% random sample of the total number of persons (n=8,620) with DWI arrest dates in the last six months of FY1995 in order to examine their driving behavior over time. We followed the driving records of 862 persons from January 1993 to May 1999 to determine their DWI recidivism before and after attendance at SATOP. These offenders would have attended SATOP shortly after the inception of the program.

Of the sample of 862 individuals, we could positively verify that 70.2% had completed SATOP at any time during the years we have been collecting data. For those who had completion dates in the database, we examined records for persons attending SATOP between 1/21/95 and 12/26/96, 59%, or 509 persons, in the total sample. We chose these dates because we thought it likely that persons in this cohort would have attended the program during these times. The rest of the SATOP completion dates were outside this time period.

In the following information, the index arrest was taken out of the analysis. The reason for this is that each person was selected for the study because he/she had a DWI arrest during a particular time. The index arrest is thus defined as the arrest for which the sample was chosen.

Offenses

A total of 126 of the 862 offenders (14.6%) had 136 offenses prior to the index arrest. The following table

gives detail on persons committing pre-SATOP offenses.

Table 1. Pre-SATOP Offenders by Type of Offense (minus index arrest)

Revocations or Suspensions	1	2	3	Total Offenders
Administrative	85	5	1	91
Chemical	32	3	0	35
Total	117	8	2	126

Following the index arrest, there were 106 offenders, with 110 offenses. This means that 756 persons did not re-offend over this period, giving an arrest rate of 12.3% for the cohort over the almost 4 years since data collection.

Table 2 shows the number of persons and types of offenses following SATOP.

Table 2. Post-SATOP Offenders by Type of Offense

Revocations or Suspensions	1	2	Total Offenders
Administrative	64	1	65
Chemical	38	3	41
Total	102	4	106

Accidents

Following their DWI arrests, 119 persons (13.8%) of the total sample had a least one accident with property damage of \$500 or greater after their index arrest. Of those, the majority (n=105, or 88.2%) had only one accident, 10 (11.8%) had two accidents, three persons had three accidents, and one had four accidents. Most of these drivers were male (84.0%). Most accidents (67.2%) had two cars involved and involved a moving vehicle (71.4%). One accident involved a fatality.



For the 509 persons whom we know attended the program between 1/21/95 and 12/26/96, 86 (16.9%) had at least one accident post SATOP. Of those, 74 persons (86.0%) had only one accident, eight (9.3%) had two accidents, three had three accidents, and one had four accidents. The majority of the drivers were male (81.4%). The accidents most frequently involved two cars (66.3%), and the most cars were in motion (72.1%). There were no fatalities involved in these accidents. DWI recidivism data on this smaller sample shows that there were 96 DWI arrests prior to SATOP attendance and 29 arrests in the approximately three years we have been following them.

Conclusion

We have been following a sample of drivers who committed DWI offenses in the last six months of FY1995. Over the last almost four years, slightly fewer persons committed drinking and driving offenses after attending SATOP than in the two years before their index arrest. Accidents involving property damage of \$500 or greater was relatively low for the cohort. For persons whom we know completed SATOP, the number of arrests has dropped considerably after attending the program.

